GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1826
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2015
Proposals from Kerala/Gujarat
Solanki Dr. Kirit Premjibhai;Thomas Prof. Kuruppassery Varkey

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposals for setting up an additional harbour at Cochin Port and an inland Container Depot at Kodungallur in Kerala;
(b) if so, the details and the present status thereof;
(c) whether the Government of Gujarat has submitted any representation to the Union Government on CRZ Notification 2011 for the Ports and Harbour; and
(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING
(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a)&(b):The Cochin Port Trust has forwarded a proposal to the Ministry of Defence for approving an Outer Harbour Project in Cochin Port. The proposal involves construction of Northern Break water of 6676 mtrs long and Southern Breakwater of 4850 mtrs long and development of land area of 2600 acres abutting the Northern Breakwater and 650 acres abutting the Southern Breakwater.

An Inland container Depot viz., Transglobal Inland Container Services, is operating since April, 2012 at Mathilakom, 10 kms North of Kodungallur having 33000 sqft of operational covered area and is 40 kms away from the International Container Transshipment Terminal, Vallarpadam.

(c)&(d):As per the inputs received from the Ministry of Environment and Forests, the Government of Gujarat requested the Government to consider projects for Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) clearance in low and medium eroding coastal stretches based on rapid Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) instead of comprehensive EIA Report.

A rapid EIA may not address all the environmental concerns in low and medium eroding stretches of the coast. Therefore, as per the procedure prescribed for seeking prior clearance under the CRZ notification, 2011, all project proposals in stretches classified as low and medium eroding as well as stable coasts shall be accompanied by comprehensive EIA studies. This requirement is uniformly applicable throughout the country. To conserve and protect such coastal stretches, promote development through sustainable manner based on scientific principles, it is important that comprehensive EIA studies are carried out and Environment Management Plans worked out accordingly before considering proposals in such stretches.
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